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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/052,363	01/18/2002	Dipankar Gupta	B-3592DIV 619037-4	4193

7590 12/10/2004

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EXAMINER

BACKER, FIRMIN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3621

DATE MAILED: 12/10/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/052,363

Applicant(s)

GUPTA, DIPANKAR

Examiner

Firmin Backer

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 September 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2-7, 10-13, 17 and 18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2-7, 10-13, 17 and 18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

Response to Request for Reconsideration

This is in response to a request for reconsideration file September 1st, 2003. Claims 2-7, 10-13, 17 and 18 are being reconsidered in this action.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 2-7, 10-13, 17 and 18 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 2-7, 10-13, 17 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Saito (U.S. Patent No. 6,744,894).

4. As per claims 2 and 18, Saito teaches a cryptographic method of using a protocol involving the consumer, the owner, a document source and a mediator, wherein the source requires knowledge of a key in which the document is encrypted in order to provide the document, the key comprising a first portion, a second portion, a third portion, and a fourth

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portion, the protocol comprising the following sequential the consumer requests a specified document the owner provides the source with the first and third portions of the key and provides, a mediator with the fourth portion of the key, which can combine with the third portion of the key to generate a complete key and either, the owner provides the source with the second portion of the key and the first portion of the key is combined with the second portion of the key to generate a complete key; or the owner does not provide the source with the second key portion, and the third key portion is combined with the fourth key portion to generate a complete key, and enabling a consumer to obtain a document from an owner upon making a payment, and the consumer provides the owner with the payment (*see column 9 lines 26-14 line 51 embodiment 5, column 26 lines 9-28 line 57*).

5. As per claim 3, Saito teaches a cryptographic method wherein first and third portion are different (*see column 9 lines 26-14 line 51 embodiment 5, column 26 lines 9-28 line 57*).

6. As per claim 4, Saito teaches a cryptographic method arranged for enabling the consumer to receive a plurality of such documents, wherein the first and second portions are different for each document (*see column 9 lines 26-14 line 51 embodiment 5, column 26 lines 9-28 line 57*).

7. As per claim 5, Saito teaches a cryptographic method wherein the mediator is involved in the protocol only in the event of a dispute between the owner and the consumer (*see column 9 lines 26-14 line 51 embodiment 5, column 26 lines 9-28 line 57*).

8. As per claim 6, Saito teaches a cryptographic method wherein the document source comprises a printer (*see column 9 lines 26-14 line 51 embodiment 5, column 26 lines 9-28 line 57*).

9. As per claim 7, Saito teaches a printer including a memory for storing a first key portion and a third key portion, an element for receiving a second key portion or a fourth key portion; and an element for decrypting an encrypted document transmitted thereto in accordance with an encryption key defined by the first and the second key portions or the third and the fourth key portions and enabling a consumer to obtain a document from an owner upon making a payment, and the consumer provides the owner with the payment (*see column 9 lines 26-14 line 51 embodiment 5, column 26 lines 9-28 line 57*).

10. As per claim 10, Saito teaches a printer arranged to print a number of copies of a the document in each of a plurality of formats (*see column 9 lines 26-14 line 51 embodiment 5, column 26 lines 9-28 line 57*).

11. As per claim 11, Saito teaches a printer arranged to print only one copy of a the document in a first format and an unlimited number of copies of the document in a second format (*see column 9 lines 26-14 line 51 embodiment 5, column 26 lines 9-28 line 57*).

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12. As per claim 12, Saito teaches a printer wherein the formats comprise different resolutions (*see column 9 lines 26-14 line 51 embodiment 5, column 26 lines 9-28 line 57*).

13. As per claim 13, Saito teaches a printer wherein the formats comprise monochrome and color images (*see column 9 lines 26-14 line 51 embodiment 5, column 26 lines 9-28 line 57*).

14. As per claim 17, Saito teaches a printer wherein if the consumer provides the owner with the payment, but the owner does not provide the consumer with the second key portion, then the mediator provides the consumer with the fourth key portion (*see column 9 lines 26-14 line 51 embodiment 5, column 26 lines 9-28 line 57*).

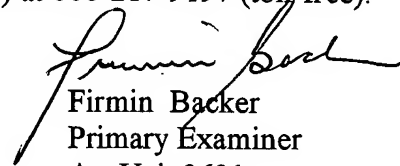
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Firmin Backer whose telephone number is (703) 305-0624. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thu 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Trammell can be reached on (703) 305-9768. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Firmin Backer
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3621

December 6, 2004